

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re: Robert Rex Rice  
Appl. No.: To Be Assigned  
Filed: Concurrently Herewith  
For: LASER DIODE ARRAYS WITH REPLACEABLE LASER DIODE BARS  
AND METHODS OF REMOVING AND REPLACING LASER DIODE BARS

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
CITATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97**

Sir:

Attached is a list of documents on form PTO-1449. In accordance with the Office waiver published July 11, 2003, copies of the cited U.S. patents and patent application publications are not enclosed. Applicant does enclose copies of any cited foreign patent documents and non-patent literature in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

It is requested that the Examiner consider these documents and officially make them of record in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and Section 609 of the MPEP. By submitting the listed documents, Applicant in no way makes any admission as to the prior art status of the listed documents, but is instead submitting the listed documents for the sake of full disclosure.

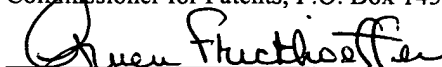
Respectfully submitted,

  
Guy R. Gosnell  
Registration No. 34,610

**Customer No. 00826**  
**ALSTON & BIRD LLP**  
Bank of America Plaza  
101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000  
Charlotte, NC 28280-4000  
Tel Charlotte Office (704) 444-1000  
Fax Charlotte Office (704) 444-1111

"Express Mail" mailing label number EV 331632076 US  
Date of Deposit February 23, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to:  
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

  
Gwen Frickhoeffter

Substitute for form 1449/PTO (Revised 04/2003)  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<b>Complete if Known</b>		
				Application Number	To Be Assigned	
				Filing Date	Concurrently Herewith	
				First Named Inventor	Robert Rex Rice	
				Group Art Unit		
Examiner Name						
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	038190/274396	
<b>U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number Number - Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages of Relevant Figures Appear	
	1	US-5,105,429	04-1992	Mundinger, et al.		
	2	US-5,305,344	04-1994	Patel		
	3	US-5,495,490	02-1996	Rice, et al.		
	4	US-5,848,083	12-1998	Haden, et al.		
	5	US-6,151,341	11-2000	Bull, et al.		
	6	US-6,266,881	07-2001	Takigawa, et al.		
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document Country Code - Number Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	English Language Translation Attached
Examiner Signature				Date Considered		

\*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to